

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 and 21-35 are pending in the application. In the above Office Action the Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 and 21-35 in the manner discussed below.

Rejection of Claims 1-20

In the first rejection made within the above Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art in view of Jacobs et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,006,285). For the reasons discussed below, Applicant respectfully submits that it is inappropriate to combine Jacobs et al with Applicant's admitted prior art and that Jacobs et al fails to describe Applicant's claimed switching means.

With respect to FIG. 1 of the present specification, Applicant has described a conventional handheld computing device 125 connected to a conventional laptop computer 100. Laptop computer 100 includes a microprocessor 102 configured to execute an operating system 116, which enables laptop computer 100 to function in a conventional manner.

Handheld computing device 125 includes a microprocessor 127 designed to execute an operating system 141. During operation, handheld computing device functions in a low power, "instant on" manner, whereby when it is powered-on, microprocessor 127 executes instructions representing operating system 141 and applications 143 directly from main memory and flash memory 131.

Jacobs describes an entirely different type of system from that described by Applicant with reference to FIG. 1. Specifically, Jacobs describes a computer system which supports a secondary operational mode (i.e., an "audio CD mode") in which traditional system BIOS is bypassed. This mode is intended to enable audio CDs to be played in a CD-ROM drive *without running an operating system* (see, e.g., col. 4, line 64 to col. 5, line 2 and col. 1, lines 55-59). It follows that Jacobs does not describe a system in which different processors execute different operating systems during operation in instant on and non-instant on modes, since in the Jacobs system an operating system does not run during the audio CD mode. Moreover, it would be nonsensical to attempt to integrate the Jacobs system with the prior art system described by Applicant with respect to FIG. 1, since the lack of the use of an operating system during Jacobs'

audio CD mode is incompatible with the use of an operating system within the handheld computing device 125 of FIG. 1. Accordingly, the Jacobs system in combination with the system of Applicant's FIG. 1 does not yield a device in which different operating systems are operative in instant on and non-instant on modes as presently claimed, since Jacobs' audio CD mode is configured to be independent of an operating system.

The system of the invention fundamentally differs from the Jacobs system and the prior art system of FIG. 1 in other respects as well. For example, in contrast to both the system of Applicant's FIG. 1 and the Jacobs system, the inventive system further includes one or more switching mechanisms to selectively couple the input/output devices to one or more of the first plurality of electronic components and to selectively couple the input/output devices to one or more of the second plurality of electronic components.

The Examiner has referenced Jacobs at col. 6, lines 7-10 for support of the position that Jacobs describes switching means for selectively coupling one of a plurality of input/output devices to an electronic component in the instant on mode or to an electronic component in the non-instant on mode. The referenced section of Jacobs describes that a "bass boost function" may be controlled by pressing function F1 on keyboard 48 during operation in either the PC mode or audio CD mode. However, Applicant respectfully submits that this functionality of Jacobs does not describe switching means configured to effect selective coupling in accordance with the invention. That is, the fact that Jacobs has described a single key capable performing the same function during the PC and audio CD modes does not in any way suggest that the key is "selectively coupled" to different sets of electronic components during operation in such modes. In contrast, see, e.g., switches 308 and 310 in Applicant's FIG. 3. If anything, the identical "bass boost" functionality controlled during Jacobs' PC and audio CD modes suggests that an identical signal path exists between the audio portion of the computer system and the F1 key during both modes, and that it is thus unnecessary to perform any selective coupling involving this key. In this regard Applicant draws the attention of the Examiner to Jacobs' Fig. 1, which fails to indicate the presence of any switch mechanism between keyboard 48 (or keyboard controller 46) and audio chip 34.

The Examiner has also asserted that the Jacobs system includes "a processor to execute instructions in the instant on mode (see Fig. 1); a processor to execute instructions in the non-instant on mode (see Fig. 1); and a processor to execute instructions in the instant on mode or the non-instant on mode (see Fig. 1). If the Examiner is referring to the CPU 10 of Jacobs' Fig. 1 as the "processor" referenced above, then Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not identified a processor within the Jacobs system that executes instructions in an instant on mode. This is because the CPU 10 does not function to control Jacobs' CD-ROM drive 28 during the audio CD mode, which it appears the Examiner regards as being analogous to the claimed instant on mode. Applicant respectfully requests clarification as to which element in Jacobs' Fig. 1 corresponds to a processor configured to execute instructions during an instant on mode.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejection of claims 1-20.

Rejection of Claims 22-35

In the second rejection made within the above Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 22-35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art in view of Jacobs as applied to claims 1-20, and further in view of Chaiken et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,116,767). Since each of claims 22-35 are dependent upon one of claims 1-20 and Chaiken does not remedy any of the above deficiencies of Jacobs with respect to claims 1-20, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejection of claims 22-35 for the reasons discussed above.

Applicant also respectfully submits that Chaiken does not describe or suggest input/output devices configured to display output of first and second application programs during operation in instant on and non-instant on modes, respectively. In this regard the Examiner has stated that:

Chaiken, in the same computer field, discloses display means for displaying an output generated in the non-instant on mode and an output generated in the instant on mode. The display means comprises a main LCD (406) and a mini LCD (55).

In light of Chaiken, it would have been obvious to one [of] ordinary skill in the art to use Chaiken's mini LCD in Jacobs' integrated computer to display the output generated in the instant

[on] mode. This would have been obvious because the mini LCD allows the user to visually tracking the output information generated in the instant [on] mode.

Applicant observes that pending claims 22-35 do not recite "display means for displaying an output generated in the non-instant on mode and an output generated in the instant on mode". Rather, these claims contemplate that at least one input/output device is capable of displaying output during instant on and non-instant on modes of operation. Accordingly, even if there were some motivation to include Chaiken's mini LCD in Jacobs's computer system, this would not meet the terms of claims 22-35 since such mini LCD would not display output generated by a first application program during instant on operation and output generated by a second application program during non-instant on operation.

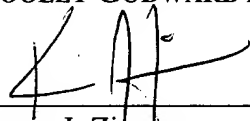
Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the remarks herein prior to further examination of the above-identified application. The undersigned would of course be available to discuss the present application with the Examiner if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a discussion could lead to resolution of any outstanding issues.

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